RCMP O DIVISION CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM

Border Integrity Open Source Results for 2022-02-16, 1600 hours

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AIM

To provide RCMP O Division with passive open source information identified on 2022-02-16 by 1600 hours, pertaining to the ongoing protests known as the "Freedom Convoy" at or near Ontario land and air ports of entry (POE).

KEY FINDINGS

- Members of the Facebook group "Niagara Peninsula Convoy 2022" are discussing holding another convoy on 2022-02-19; however, details have not been publicly released.
- The equine protest scheduled to take place at the Peace Bridge on 2022-02-19 is cancelled.
- Additional social media posts were located promoting protests/rallies on the American side of the Peace Bridge on 2022-02-19. Collaboration between Canadian and US protestors was noted during the past weekend activities.
- There are ongoing online discussions about the protests in Windsor, but nothing has been identified during this reporting period about any planned protests.
- An unsubstantiated Twitter post alleges that fines were issued in Windsor for having a Canadian flag on a vehicle.

NIAGARA REGION

Peace Bridge

On 2022-02-15, Personal Info. [redacted], administrator of the Facebook group "Niagara Peninsula Convoy 2022", posted a warning to group members that "over the next few days, RCMP will be up to their usual wood stealing, fuel liberating, excavator sabotaging tactics" (Figure 1).[i] Personal has one criminal conviction for Dangerous Operation of a Motor Vehicle (2015). He was charged with Possession of a Schedule I Substance in 2010, which was withdrawn in 2011.[ii] Personal is named in occurrences with OPP, Hamilton Police, Halton Regional Police, and Toronto Police; however, aside from the aforementioned charges and conviction, all of the occurrences involved the Highway Traffic Act. Further, a PROS query was conducted which was also negative.

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Figure 1: Facebook post made by Personal Info. on 2022-02-15

Other members of the Facebook group "Niagara Peninsula Convoy 2022" have been discussing the next convoy to take place on 2022-02-19. However, no details as to a meeting point, time, or exact location have been publicly shared.[iii] Searches will continue in order to provide concrete plans as they develop.

On 2022-02-15, Facebook user Personal Info. (believed to be Personal Info. Perso, organizer of the "Freedom Ride", an equine protest scheduled for 2022-02-19, posted that they are cancelling this event due to the "new martial law in place from Trudeau".[iv] Personal is positive on PIP with holdings from Niagara Regional Police. All other queries of law enforcement databases were negative.

Open source queries revealed more posts regarding protests/rallies on the American side of the Peace Bridge to occur on 2022-02-19.[v] Analysts will continue to conduct open source searches to identify details of this event.

Rainbow/Whirlpool/Queenston-Lewiston Bridge

No posts of concern were observed since the last report.

WINDSOR

A Twitter post (Figure 2) reports that tickets are being issued in Windsor ranging from $525 to $575 "for just having a Canadian flag on their vehicle". No further information was found in online searches corroborating this information.

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Figure 2: Twitter post by Personal on 2022-02-15[vi]

SARNIA

There were no posts of concern identified during this reporting period and no further updates regarding the MY PILLOW delivery truck crossing the Canadian border. At this time, it is believed that the truck is still on the US side.

KINGSTON

No posts of concern were observed since the last report.

CORNWALL

No posts of concern were observed since the last report.

SAULT STE. MARIE

No posts of concern were observed since the last report.

OTTAWA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – YOW

No posts of concern were observed since the last report.

TORONTO PEARSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – YYZ

No posts of concern were observed since the last report.

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STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS

With the fluidity and ever evolving situations at or near the POEs, continued live query support of open source media is warranted in order to provide updated situational awareness for RCMP O Division and partner agencies.

LIMITATIONS

Although every effort has been made to review all publicly visible social media and web sources for information relevant to this brief, the absence of threat information herein should not be taken as an exhaustive examination of potential threats. A large volume of information is available online and constantly evolving.

DISSEMINATION

Supt. Peter Koersvelt - O Division DIO
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OPP Project HENDON

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[i] [U] Facebook.com/groups/6535666959635, accessed 2022-02-16.
[ii] [PRO A] CPIC result for Personal Info. queried on 2022-02-16.
[iii] [U] Personal Info.
[iv] [U]
[v] [U]
[vi] [U] accessed on 2022-02-16.

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